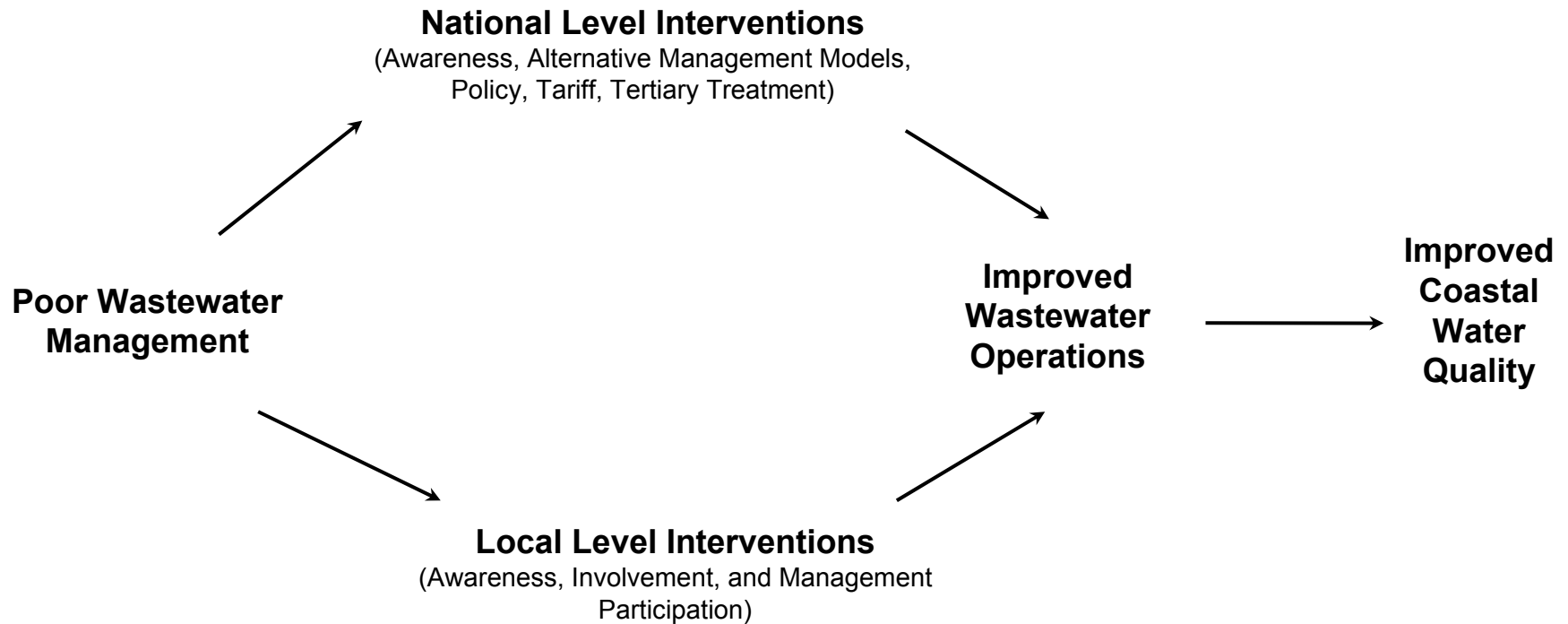


# Case Study

## Promoting a New Paradigm for Improved Wastewater Management



# Wastewater info

- inadequate # of sewage treatment plants in operation, poor operating conditions in existing plants

- increasing population in coastal areas puts pressure on systems and increases the amount of poorly treated or untreated wastewater that is being discharged.
- Estimated that less than 2% of urban sewage is treated before disposal, even less in rural communities
- outfall of some systems short contributing to pollution of near-shore water

- **Status of Wastewater Sector in Jamaica**
  - 20% of population island-wide connected to a sewage treatment plant
  - urban centers account for 90% of waste handled by the National Water Commission (NWC)
  - Total of 139 sewage treatment plants in Jamaica, some privately owned and operated and others operated and/or owned by NWC
  - 49 sewage plants operated by NWC
  - 3 new secondary treatment plants built with international development assistance- 1 Mobay, 1 Negril, 1 Ocho Rios.

- Central systems located in Kingston and St. Andrew, St. Catherine and Montego Bay.
- NWc also has responsibility for small wastewater systems associated with housing developments
- Most plants are for primary or secondary treatment, there is one tertiary treatment plant
- At 1996, of 112 sewage treatment facilities monitored by ECD 30% were operating satisfactorily
- NRCA established Sewage Effluent Standards in December 1996.

- Alleviation of problem requires
  - political commitment to develop and enforce legislation
  - adherence to planning policies
  - improving existing wastewater facilities
  - building new systems
  - encourage connection to facilities